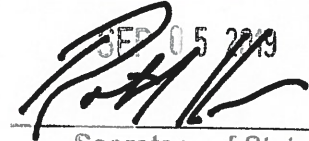




GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

September 5, 2019

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
11:10 AM 'CLOCK

SEP 05 2019  
  
Secretary of State

The Honorable Ruth R. Hughs  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Room 1E.8  
Austin, Texas 78701

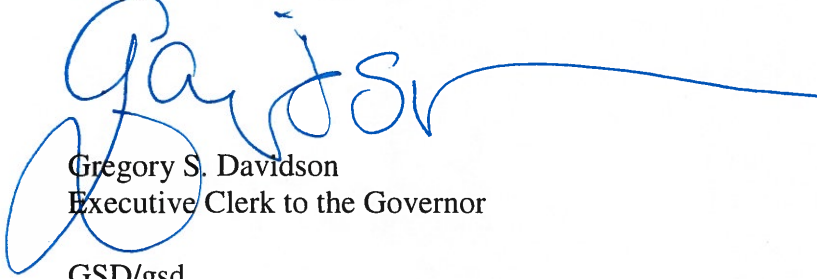
Dear Madam Secretary:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

Executive Order No. GA-07 relating to the prevention of mass attacks.

The original executive order is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory S. Davidson  
Executive Clerk to the Governor

GSD/gsd

Attachment

# Executive Order

BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department  
Austin, Texas  
September 5, 2019

## EXECUTIVE ORDER GA 07

*Relating to the prevention of mass attacks.*

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WHEREAS, on August 3, 2019, a gunman killed twenty-two people in El Paso and injured dozens more in a despicable act of domestic terrorism; and

WHEREAS, the mother of the El Paso gunman had previously expressed concern to police about her son and the weapon with which he would later commit his cowardly attack; and

WHEREAS, on August 31, 2019, another gunman heinously killed seven people in Odessa and injured dozens more; and

WHEREAS, the Odessa gunman had called both the police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation prior to his shooting spree, had previously failed a background check, and was recently reported to law enforcement for confronting a neighbor while brandishing a semiautomatic rifle; and

WHEREAS, these tragic events come in the wake of other mass shootings in Texas, including one in which a gunman in Santa Fe opened fire in his high school with a shotgun and a revolver, another in which a gunman murdered worshippers at their church in Sutherland Springs, and another in which a gunman fatally ambushed police officers in Dallas; and

WHEREAS, mental instability, racial hatred, extremist ideology, a desire to sow domestic terror, and other factors have contributed to these horrific mass shootings in varying degrees; and

WHEREAS, legislative action has been and will be taken to safeguard against these dangers; and

WHEREAS, in addition to further legislative action, executive action can be taken immediately to help prevent more mass shootings and keep Texans safe; and

WHEREAS, revised and readily available standards for gathering and processing information about potential criminal or terrorist acts can lead to swifter action by law enforcement to prevent such acts, including mass shootings;

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SECRETARY OF STATE  
11:10 AM O'CLOCK

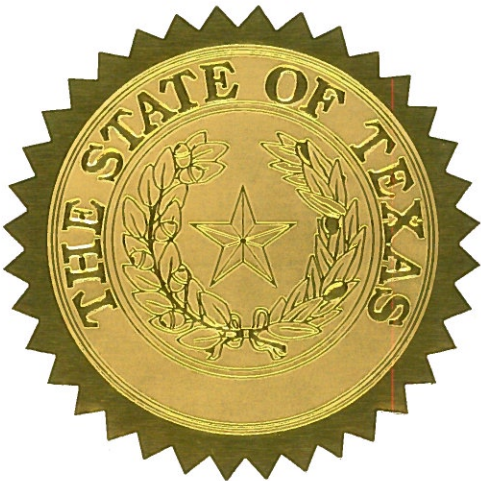
SEP 05 2019

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREG ABBOTT, Governor of the State of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Texas, do hereby order the following:

- Order No. 1      Within thirty days of this order, the Texas Department of Public Safety shall develop standardized intake questions that can be used by all Texas law-enforcement agencies to better identify whether a person calling the agency has information that should be reported to the Texas Suspicious Activity Reporting Network.
- Order No. 2      Within thirty days of this order, the Department of Public Safety shall develop clear guidance, based on the appropriate legal standard, for when and how Texas law-enforcement agencies should submit Suspicious Activity Reports.
- Order No. 3      Within sixty days of this order, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement shall make training available to educate all law-enforcement officers regarding the standards that will be developed pursuant to Order No. 1 and Order No. 2.
- Order No. 4      The Department of Public Safety shall create and conduct an initiative to raise public awareness and understanding of how Suspicious Activity Reports are used by law-enforcement agencies to identify potential mass shooters or terroristic threats, so that the general public and friends, family members, coworkers, neighbors, and classmates will be more likely to report information about potential gunmen.
- Order No. 5      The Department of Public Safety shall work with the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on ways to better inform schools, students, staff, and families about the importance of Suspicious Activity Reports and how to initiate that process.
- Order No. 6      The Department of Public Safety shall work with local law enforcement, mental-health professionals, school districts, and others to create multidisciplinary threat assessment teams for each of its regions, and when appropriate shall coordinate with federal partners.
- Order No. 7      The Department of Public Safety, as well as the Office of the Governor, shall use all available resources to increase staff at all fusion centers in Texas for the purpose of better collecting and responding to Suspicious Activity Reports, and better monitoring and analyzing social media and other online forums, for potential threats.
- Order No. 8      Beginning January 1, 2020, all future grant awards from the Office of the Governor to counties shall require a commitment that the county will report at least 90 percent of convictions within seven business days to the Criminal Justice Information

System at the Department of Public Safety. By January 1, 2021, such reporting must take place within five business days.

This executive order supersedes all previous orders on this matter that are in conflict or inconsistent with its terms, and this order shall remain in effect and in full force until modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by me or by a succeeding governor.



Given under my hand this the  
5th day of September, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GREG ABBOTT  
Governor

ATTESTED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RUTH R. HUGHES  
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
11:30am O'CLOCK  
SEP 05 2019